

Communications

Chief, FBID

5 May 1954

Office of General Counsel

25X1A6A

[redacted] - Damaged Power Cable

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1. You have requested our advice with regard to the matter of filing a claim with W. C. Rados, a construction contractor with the city of [redacted], for damage done to an underground power cable servicing the [redacted]

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2. The file indicates that apparently during November 1953 and again in January 1954, Rados severed the cable while engaged in certain sewer construction; that in effecting necessary repairs, [redacted] incurred costs in the amount of \$144.03 and \$243.87; and that although an attempt has been made to secure reimbursement from the city [redacted] it has denied liability on the grounds that Rados was an independent contractor.

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3. While the file also indicates Rados has been advised of the city's decision, we find no evidence of any action being taken to press this matter with him. Under the circumstances, we suggest that such action be initiated now. In this connection, there is attached a draft letter for transcription on [redacted]. We suggest, however, that our factual account be checked for accuracy.

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4. We note that the file does not contain any detailed report of the circumstances surrounding these incidents. If referral of this matter to the General Accounting Office or the Department of Justice becomes necessary at a subsequent date, a specific detailed account, including the names of witnesses, if any, will no doubt be required.

5. We would be glad to render such further assistance as we can in this matter.

6. The papers are returned.

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[redacted]

Attachment

OGC/RJB:afb

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